

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) An information recording apparatus designed for recording information on an optical medium, wherein irradiation means emitting a light beam form series of recorded marks whose lengths between leading edge and trailing edge correspond to respective binary values, characterized in that said irradiation means are sequentially pulsed to at least a high laser current write level from a low laser current level LL close to zero during the writing of a recorded mark.
2. (original) An information recording apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said low laser current level LL is equal to zero.
3. (original) An information recording apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said irradiation means are sequentially pulsed to a high laser current erase level from said low laser current level close to zero during the erasing of a recorded mark.
4. (currently amended) An information recording apparatus as claimed in Claim 1—or—2, wherein a bias level is reached during |

time intervals different from writing and/or erasing time intervals, and wherein said bias laser current level is substantially equal to said low laser current level.

5. (original) An information recording method for recording information on an optical medium by forming with a light beam emitted from irradiation means, series of recorded marks whose lengths between leading edge and trailing edge correspond to respective binary values by irradiation means with a beam of light, characterized in that it comprises a step of sequentially pulsing said irradiation means to a high laser current write level from a low laser current level LL close to zero during the writing of a recorded mark.
6. (original) An information recording method as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said low laser current level LL is equal to zero.
7. (currently amended) An information recording method as claimed in ~~one of the Claims 5 and 6~~claim 5, wherein it comprises a step of pulsing said irradiation means to a high laser current erase level from said low laser current level close to zero during the erasing of a recorded mark.

8. (currently amended) An information recording method as claimed in ~~one of the Claims 5 to 7~~claim 5, wherein a bias level is reached during time intervals different from writing and/or erasing time intervals, and wherein said bias laser current level is substantially equal to said low laser current level.